

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Silver (U.S. Pat. No. 6,240,174). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Silver is directed toward a system in which user-specific data sets are stored in the communication network and managed by a central device or Service Management System (SMS). Data stored on proprietary subscriber database 113 is updated by a customer service operator using customer SMS 115. A subscriber usually calls in to speak to the customer service operator to modify data such as the find me lists, pins, etc. An Element Management Server (EMS) 431 acts as a store-forward facility to propagate data from EMS database 433 between customer SMS system 437 and regional specific subscriber application data stored in each regional relational databases 409, 419 and 429. Data propagates from customer SMS system 437 to regions IPs 405, 415 and 435 and along the opposite path, See, for example, col. 5, lines 20-22 and col. 6, lines 45-50.

In the invention, for each data record which is stored in one of the service devices, an address list is kept of the other service devices which likewise keep this data record, with a change which is initiated by the customer being varied out on one of the service devices storing that data record, whereby this service device reports the change to the other service devices. Figure 2 is an exemplary illustration of the invention where entries are made by the user. The IP service device, in the exemplary embodiment, is executed as an OCANEQ service device. This OCANEQ service device is arranged in a plurality of local connection points in the communication network. In this regard, it occurs several times in the local connection point itself. Once the user has entered the data into the OCANEQ service device, this data set is transferred to other OCANEQ service devices in the network. This is possible only because the OCANEQ service devices maintain an address list including the addresses of the remaining OCANEQ service devices in the network. As a result of this configuration, a central device, such as an SMS or EMS disclose is Silver, is not required to disseminate data sets with the network. This is expressed in claim 1 where a list of addresses of the other service devices store the data record and a change to the data record is carried out on one of

the service devices which stores the corresponding data record and the service device reports the change throughout the network to the other service devices.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122021200. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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